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United States Patent [19]

Mohler et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,160,919**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 3, 1992**[54] **ERGONOMIC KEYBOARD**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **340/711; 340/706;**
D14/100; D14/115; 341/22; 248/918; 400/489;
400/82

[58] **Field of Search** **340/706, 711; 341/20,**
341/22; 400/82, 83, 472, 479, 489; 248/918;
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An ergonomic keyboard which allows the user's hands to be placed in an anatomically neutral position with the palms facing each other. The main keys are arranged in vertical rows on opposite sides of a base, with the keys to be engaged by the index fingers being uppermost, and the keys to be engaged by the little fingers being lowermost. Space bars are arranged on side edges of the base such that they may be activated by pressure applied from different directions. Secondary keys, such as function keys, are arranged on inclined surfaces for improved visibility. The keyboard may be a discrete unit, or may be fixed to or integral with a data display monitor.

4 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet